

# The Real Property Law Section

<http://www.calbar.ca.gov/rpsection>

STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA

## SECTION LEADERSHIP NEWS

On January 6, 2005, a Subsection Leadership Conference was held at the State Bar headquarters in San Francisco and was well-attended by the subsection chairs from across the state. Organized primarily by Executive Committee members Nargis Choudhry, Tony Arostegi and Gordon Eng, the day long meeting included sessions on organizing section seminars, running meetings and serving the interests of the section's membership. On January 7, the Executive Committee met and discussed many of the upcoming section projects, including legislative information on the website, the Retreat at Silverado, CLE promotions, and a potential law student outreach program.

This issue of the Newsletter marks the start of a continuing feature introducing new Executive Committee members, whose terms run 2004 through 2007, and highlighting chairs of the many subsections. Specific contact information for all Executive Committee members and Subsection Chairs may be found on the website and in the back of each issue of the *Journal*.

## NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS



**Julie A. Frambach** is a shareholder in the Real Estate Department of Hopkins & Carley in San Diego. Julie's practice focuses on commercial real estate transactions. She has extensive experience in real estate and business transactional matters, including commercial real estate leases, purchase and sales, exchanges, and financing.



**Scott D. Rogers** is the national underwriter and counsel for the National Commercial Services Division, San Francisco office of First American Title Insurance Company. His responsibilities include legal analysis, risk management, problem solving and decision making for commercial real estate transactions in the San Francisco Bay Area, nationally and internationally.



**Steven E. Otto** is a partner with Luce Forward Hamilton & Scripps LLP in San Diego. Steven represents, advises and negotiates on behalf of clients acquiring, selling, developing and leasing commercial, industrial and residential projects.

## SUBSECTION LEADERSHIP



Chair of the Commercial Leasing, South, subsection, **Deborah L. Babb** is a partner in the Los Angeles office of Allen Matkins Leck Gamble & Mallory. She concentrates her practice on general real estate transactions, with an emphasis on the leasing, acquisition and disposition of commercial and industrial properties.



Chair of the Real Estate Finance, South, subsection, **Claudio R. Chavez** is a partner in the Los Angeles office of Piper Rudnick Gray Cary US LLP. Claudio's practice involves general real estate commercial transactions, with an emphasis on public and private financing.



Co-chair of the Environmental Law, North, subsection, **Catherine W. Johnson** is a partner in the environmental practice group of the Oakland law firm of Wendel, Rosen, Black & Dean, LLP.

Catherine represents a wide range of clients in matters involving remediation and development of contaminated properties, brownfields, environmental due diligence, and various environmental compliance, permit and litigation issues.



The other co-chair of the Environmental Law, North, subsection, **Katharine E. Wagner**, is a partner in and chairs the Environmental Law Practice Group of Downey, Brand, LLP based in Sacramento, within the firm's Natural Resources Department. Katharine advises clients on regulatory issues relating to environmental compliance and permitting, site clean-ups, and business transaction due diligence issues, in the development, acquisition, sale and permitting of property and energy, industrial, agricultural and commercial operations.



Co-chair of the Natural Resources, North, subsection, **Eric Robinson** is a principal in the natural resources section at Kronick, Moskovitz, Tiedemann & Girard in Sacramento. Eric provides counsel to public- and private-sector clients statewide on obtaining and defending water supplies for existing land uses and new development projects and on development approvals under local, state and federal environmental laws.



Co-chair of the Natural Resources, North, subsection, **Paul S. Kibel** is of counsel with Fitzgerald Abbott & Beardsley LLP in Oakland. He specializes in the area of water rights law, environmental impact assessment law, brownfields reuse, and ocean fisheries law.

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The Real Property Law Section Newsletter

February 2005

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

**March 10, 2005** *Recent Developments in Real Estate: What Every Practitioner Needs to Know*: Luncheon OR Live Webcast Program Providing 1 Hour MCLE Credit, sponsored by the Real Estate Litigation Subsection. New developments in the area of real estate law have continued unabated this past year. Panelists Edmund Regalia and Rich Carlston, both with Miller, Starr & Regalia, will discuss recent cases involving issues of importance to the California real estate practitioner.

**Time**: Check-in/lunch\* at 11:45 am. Program to begin promptly at 12:15 pm and to end by 1:15 pm.

**Place**: State Bar of California, 4th Floor Conference Room 180 Howard Street (between Spear & Main Streets), San Francisco [2 blocks south of Embarcadero MUNI/BART Station]

**Price**: \$45 for members of the State Bar Real Property Law Section; \$60 for non-members

\*Registration fee includes a deli-style lunch for in-person participants, call 415-538-2564 for information. To register for live webcast, go to <http://calbar.legalspan.com>.

**March 12, 2005** *Central Coast Real Property Law Roundtable*, 9:15 am to noon, co-sponsored with the San Luis Obispo County Bar Association; \$30 for subsection members; contact subsection chair Jacqueline Frederick for registration information.

**March 28, 2005** Natural Resources Subsection is co-sponsor with Golden Gate University for a program at GGU entitled: *Drawdown? - The Differing Debates Over the O'Shaughnessy and Glen Canyon Dams*.

**April 29-May 1, 2005** *Real Property Retreat*, Silverado Country Club and Resort. Earn up to 11.75 Hours MCLE Credit, which includes 1 Hour Credit in Legal Ethics and 1 Hour Credit in

Elimination of Bias in the Legal Profession. Network and share ideas with Real Estate Professionals from around the state. Enjoy golf, tennis, wine tasting and dinner in the heart of the Napa Valley. Three-day registration fee of \$395 for Section members includes education sessions, program materials, Friday reception, dinner and Section Leadership Party, Saturday breakfast and luncheon and Sunday continental breakfast. The full program brochure is now posted on the Section website under 2005 Real Property Retreat. **Dates To Remember**: **April 1**: Hotel Reservation Deadline; **April 11**: Early Registration Deadline (Special Discounted Rate); **April 22**: Pre-Registration Deadline. Register Today!

**LEGISLATIVE NEWS**

To get the latest information on bills of interest to real estate practitioners, go to the Section's website where you will find links to the State Bar's Office of Governmental Affairs Web site and a listing of bills being tracked on behalf of the Real Property Law Section. Executive Committee member Rich Carlston heads up the Legislation Committee.

**CALL FOR ARTICLES AND EDITORS!**

The *Journal* is always interested in hearing from section members interested in writing or editing articles. Please contact the Managing Editor, Mia Weber, at 415-393-2540 or [mia.weber@bingham.com](mailto:mia.weber@bingham.com) for more information.

**GOT NEWS?**

A big deal? Major accomplishment? Case or legislation of interest to other real property lawyers? Share it with the Real Property Law Section. Contact Teresa Klinkner at 310.968.6684, or [tbk@klinknerlaw.com](mailto:tbk@klinknerlaw.com).